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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,022	02/27/2002	Koji Kunii	450100-03800	2689

20999 7590 08/24/2004
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG
745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL.
NEW YORK, NY 10151

EXAMINER	
ABDÜLSELAM, ABBAS I	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2674

8

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/086,022	KUNII ET AL.
	Examiner Abbas I Abdulselam	Art Unit 2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 June 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 06/04/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the cited reference does not teach, "writing means for writing to said schedule list said preset information established by said establishing means". However, as discussed in the art rejection below, Ellis teaches a micro-controller (16) that recognizes the received data as application software, which controls the program, schedule system and stores it in Rom, EEPROM (20) (col. 5, lines 42-47). Ellis also teaches as discussed in the art rejection setting a VCR timer to control a VCR to record the program at the scheduled time. Ellis additionally teaches an electronic program guide that could be configured to store a unique digital identifier for each program along with its schedule information and later use of the identifier--e.g., by transmitting it--to indicate to a recording or storage device, such as a video recorder, that the user wishes to record the program. Ellis adds that the program guide could also use the identifier to automatically control operation of the video recorder, and it could also be configured to use other stored schedule information. See col. 18, lines 31-40. Therefore, it would have been obvious to utilize Ellis's VCR timer along with configurable electronic program guide with unique digital identifier to achieve the desired "writing means" with respect to "preset information".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellis et al. (USPN 6470497).

Regarding claims 1 and 5-7, Ellis teaches an electronic program schedule system (10), whose components can be located in a user's set-up cable converter box or other signal reception or processing device (col. 4, lines 50-60). Ellis discloses a data provider, which is a program information provider, and the data stream containing program schedule information for all television programs and similar services (col. 4, lines 67 and col. 5, lines 1-5). Ellis teaches a micro-controller (16) that recognizes the received data as application software, which controls the program, schedule system and stores it Rom, EEPROM (20) (col. 5, lines 42-47). Further, Ellis teaches a micro-controller (16) issuing proper control commands to a program circuit (21), which is adapted to supply the proper program voltage and logic control signals (22) required to erase and write to the EEPROM (20). See col. 5, lines 61-65. In addition, Ellis discloses the micro-controller (16) functioning through taking the program schedule information and supplying to a video display generator VDG (23) See. Col. 6, lines 34-44. Ellis mentions the use of remote controllers whose functions can be integrated into a keypad on the user's cable box

or other hardware See col. 8, lines 65-67. Ellis does not specifically teach “establishing means for establishing preset information for presenting a program for unattended recording based on an application input by a user referring to the program information displayed by the displaying means.” On the other hand, Ellis teaches that when a user selects a future program, it is possible to set a VCR timer for programmed recording. For example, Ellis teaches that when a user presses an ENTER button (44) on the remote control device while a future program is selected, the user can set a VCR timer to control the VCR at the scheduled time at which a REMINDER message is displayed. See col. 14, lines 32-41.

Therefore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize Ellis’s selection of future program for the purpose of setting and recording a program ahead of time. One would have been motivated in view of Ellis that future program selection along with the use of VCR equivalently establishes preset information for presenting a program for unattended recording.

Regarding claim 2, Ellis teaches a micro-controller (16) issuing proper control commands to a reprogram circuit, which is adapted for writing and erasing. See col. 5, lines 61-67.

Regarding claim 3, Ellis discloses that that the system may be configured to display program schedule information for multiple channels or multiple time periods. See col. lines 50-54.

Regarding claim 4, Ellis teaches icons (47A 47B) that may be displayed on a TV screen directly above the corresponding distinguishing color-coded key. See col. 8, lines 8-21 and Fig. 4

Conclusion

3. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to **Abbas Abdulselam** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-8591**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Richard Hjerpe**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4709**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Application/Control Number: 10/086,022
Art Unit: 2674

Page 6

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology center 2600 customer Service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Abbas Abdulselam

Examiner

Art Unit 2674

August 13, 2004


RICHARD HJELLE 8/13/04
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600